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Advocacy Office for Children & Families

DCFS

406 East Monroe Street

Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Advocacy Office,

I have been retained by Julia Eickmeier regarding her 3 year old daughter. Ms. Eickmeier believes that her daughter is being sexually abused by the child's father. She has reported this to the LaSalle County DCFS office and has been continually given unfounded decisions.

Ms. Eickmeier has presented evidence of many of the signs of sexual abuse of children indicated on your website. She has provided evidence that the minor child:

Has difficulty walking,

Has redness, rashes, bleeding or pain in the genital or anal areas;

Has frequent headaches and stomachaches;

Has sudden changes in behavior and personality;

Has become depressed;

Withdraws from family;

Has shown sudden fear of people;

Has acted out sexually, showing sexual knowledge beyond what is normal for her age, sexual play with toys, self or others.

When this evidence was brought to the attention to the local DCFS office it was ignored or downplayed.

They have interviewed the minor child for less than 15 minutes at their office. They have never spent time with the minor child, but they expect her to open up to a complete stranger.

I believe that the local DCFS office has a bias against my client and thinks she is acting abnormal. However, in all my communications with Ms. Eichmeier she has always been honest, consistent and very concerned about her child.

Which one of us would stop filing complaints if they felt their child was being abused.

More recently, the child's babysitter reported to the local DCFS office that the minor child expressed what was going on when she went to her father's house. Ms. Eichmeier was not present when this conversation between the minor child and the babysitter occurred. The babysitter reported what happened to the local DCFS office. The report of the babysitter coincided with what Ms. Eichmeier had presented to the local DCFS office before. Again, the local DCFS office responded with a quick unfounded decision. When I met with the DCFS representative, it seemed to me that her only objective was to come to a quick resolution, not the right resolution.

We are writing your office to ask for help. Is there any way this case can be transferred to another DCFS office. We feel that this office is not experienced enough to handle this case. Further, we feel that this office now believes that my client is "the girl who cried wolf" and is thus completely bias.

Please contact my office to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Attorney Timothy F. Kohn